

Message Text

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ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OIC-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 EA-10 FRB-03 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-10
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
ALL OECD CAPITALS

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PARIS, FOR USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, EFIN, EINV, UN, ECOSOC

SUBJECT: AD HOC OECD CONSULTATION ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS

REF: (A) STATE 48776 (NOTAL)

(B) PARIS 7307 (NOTAL)

1. USG WOULD LIKE TO SCHEDULE AN AD HOC OECD CONSULTATION
ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS BETWEEN MARCH 6-10 MEETING OF ECOSOC
WORKING GROUP ON CORRUPT PRACTICES AND APRIL 3 TO 14
MEETING. IN VIEW OF EARLY EASTER WEEKEND (MARCH 26), WE
HAVE CONCLUDED THAT MOST FEASIBLE DATES FOR THE MEETING
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WOULD BE MARCH 21 AND 22.

2. FOR USOECD: IN LIGHT OF REFTELS, REQUEST MISSION
MAKE DEFINITE ARRANGEMENTS WITH OECD FOR FACILITIES,
INCLUDING ENGLISH/FRENCH INTERPRETATION, FOR AD HOC CONSU-
LTATION OF INTERESTED OECD MEMBER STATES ON MARCH 21-22.
USOECD SHOULD EXTEND OFFICIAL INVITATIONS THROUGH ALL

PERMANENT MISSIONS TO OECD COUNTRIES EXCEPT YUGOSLAVIA.
AUTHORIZATION FOR FUNDING OF INTERPRETATION HAS BEEN
OBTAINED; FISCAL DATA WILL FOLLOW SEPTTEL.

3. OTHER ACTION ADDRESSES, EXCEPT BELGRADE: REQUEST YOU
CONTACT APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN HOST GOVERNMENTS TO EN-
COURAGE THEIR PARTICIPATION IN AD HOC CONSULTATION IN PARIS
MARCH 21-22 CONCERNING THE PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT
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ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS CURRENTLY UNDER NEGOTIATION IN THE
ECOSOC WORKING GROUP ON CORRUPT PRACTICES. YOU SHOULD
MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) USG CONTINUES TO ATTACH GREAT
IMPORTANCE TO EARLY CONCLUSION OF AN EFFECTIVE INTERNA-
TIONAL AGREEMENT ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS. THE TWO WEEK SESSION
OF THE ECOSOC WORKING GROUP SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 3-14 IS
LIKELY TO BE CRITICAL. (B) AT THIS STAGE, WE BELIEVE A
MAJOR EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO COORDINATE THE POSITIONS
OF THE INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES ON THIS ISSUE. SUCH A
CONSENSUS WOULD ADVANCE OUR COMMON OBJECTIVES IN RESPECT
OF ILLICIT PAYMENTS. (C) THE USG IS PREPARED TO BE FLEXI-
BLE ON SUBSTANCE OF AN AGREEMENT, PARTICULARLY AS REGARDS
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF PAYMENTS TO AGENTS. WE DO BELIEVE,
HOWEVER, THAT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO DRAFT BROADLY
ACCEPTABLE PROVISIONS ON CRIMINALIZATION AND ON SOME
MEASURES RESPECTING THE ROLE OF AGENTS IN MAJOR INTERNA-
TIONAL TRANSACTIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS. (D) WE WELCOME
THE RECENT ADOPTION BY THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF
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COMMERCE OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENTS FOR INTERNA-
TIONAL AGREEMENT AND HAVE BEEN CAREFULLY STUDYING THOSE
RECOMMENDATIONS TO SEE WHETHER THEY MIGHT PROVIDE A BASIS
FOR CONSENSUS.

4. WE HAVE NOT DECIDED ON THE LEVEL OF US REPRESENTATION
FOR THIS MEETING. WE HOPE, HOWEVER, THAT GOVERNMENTS
WOULD SEND REPRESENTATIVES WITH THE NECESSARY EXPERTISE
AND AUTHORITY TO ADDRESS BOTH POLICY AND DRAFTING ISSUES,
SUPPLEMENTING AS NECESSARY FOR THIS PURPOSE ATTENDANCE OF
THEIR USUAL DELEGATES TO THE ECOSOC WORKING GROUP. CHRISTOPHER

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